

Message Text

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ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ADP-00 CAB-09 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 FAA-00 L-03 H-02 SS-15 NSC-10

DOTE-00 OMB-01 TRSE-00 IO-12 RSR-01 /087 W

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R 251000 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY MANILA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4717

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E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: ETRN, RP

SUBJECT: CIVAIR: GOP SEEKS QUID PRO QUO FOR PANAM'S
ADDITIONAL FREQUENCIES

REF: MANILA 4280

BEGIN SUMMARY. IN EFFECT AS QUID PRO QUO FOR ADDITIONAL PANAM FREQUENCIES TO MANILA, GOP HAS ASKED PANAM TO RECORD WITH USCAB NONOPPOSITION TO PAL PETITIONS FOR GUAM AND NORTH PACIFIC TRAFFIC RIGHTS. PANAM REPORTEDLY HAS SENT LETTER TO USCAB RE GUAM BUT WAS UNCLEAR ABOUT NORTH PACIFIC ROUTE. PANAM LOCAL MANAGER IS CONCERNED THAT GOP HAS MOVED AWAY FROM EARLIER AGREED CONCEPT OF IMMEDIATE INCREASE IN FREQUENCIES IN RETURN FOR MAJOR TOURIST PROMOTION EFFORT BY PANAM, AND IS INSTEAD LINKING THIS QUESTION TO CIVAIR NEGOTIATIONS. END SUMMARY.

1. EXEC SECY MELCHOR APRIL 24 INFORMALLY NOTIFIED EMBASSY AND PANAM MANAGER MACKENZIE OF RECOMMENDATION BY AMBASSADOR ROMUALDEZ THAT BEFORE IMPLEMENTING GRANT OF TWO ADDITIONAL FREQUENCIES TO PANAM, GOP SHOULD ENLIST PANAM SUPPORT FOR (OR FORMAL STATEMENT OF NON-OPPOSITION TO) PHILIPPINE TRAFFIC RIGHTS TO GUAM AND ON NORTH PACIFIC ROUTE. MELCHOR DID NOT
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EXPLICITLY MENTION NORTH PACIFIC ROUTE TO MACKENZIE.
HOWEVER, IN CONVERSATIONS WITH BOTH DCM AND MACKENZIE,
MALCHOR MENTIONED USCAB DOCKETS 21502 AND 14592 AS THOSE
ON WHICH ROMUALDEZ RECOMMENDED GOP SEEK FORMAL
STATEMENT OF PANAM NONOPPOSITION. HE IDENTIFIED FORMER
AS PAL PETITION FOR GUAM RIGHTS AND LATTER AS THAT FOR
MANILA- TOKYO- HONOLULU- SAN FRANCISDO ROUTE.

2. IN CONVERSATION WITH DCM, MELCHOR CLEARLY IMPLIED
THAT ROMUALDEZ' POSITION EQUALS THE GOP POSITION,
BECAUSE ALL HE OFFERED IN EXPLANATION FOR NON- ISSUANCE
OF THE IMPLEMENTING RESOLUTION WAS THIS FORMULATION OF
ROMUALDEZ' COMMENTS. MELCHOR SAID THAT HE HOPED
THESE ELEMENTS OF PRIOR BUSINESS COULD NOW BE DISPOSED OF
FIRST. WHEN DCM NOTED TO MELCHOR THAT HIS COMMENTS WENT TO THE
HEART OF THE CIVIL AIR NEGOTIATIONS FOR WHICH WE WERE
STILL EXPLORING PROSPECTS FOR RENEWAL, MELCHOR SAID SO
ABRUPTLY AS TO REFLECT APPARENT EMBARRASSMENT THAT THIS WAS NOT
HIS PROBLEM AND HE DID NOT PROPOSE TO START NEGOTIATING.
DCM SAID THAT HIS COMMENT ALSO WAS NOT INTENDED TO START
NEGOTIATING AND THANKED MELCHOR FOR KEEPING EMBASSY INFORMED.

3. MACKENZIE' S INTERPRETATION OF MELCHOR' S REMARKS WAS THAT
PRESIDENT MARCOS HAD IN EFFECT TAKEN POSITION THAT
IMPLEMENTATION OF ADDITIONAL PANAM FREQUENCIES SHOULD
BE DELAYED UNTIL USCAB ACCORDS GUAM RIGHTS TO PAL.
MACKENZIE EXPLAINED TO MELCHOR CONCEPT OF AVOIDING LINK
BETWEEN ADDITIONAL PANAM FREQUENCIES AND US- RP
CIVAIR NEGOTIATIONS SO THAT TOURIST PROMOTION EFFORTS
COULD GET UNDER WAY IMMEDIATELY. HE NOTED THAT
ARRANGEMENT COULD BE ACCOMMODATED TO ANY AIR AGREEMENT
SIFIED IN FUTURE AS INDICATED IN QUIAZON LETTER.
ACCORDING MACKENZIE, MELCHOR SEEMED UNAWARE OF TOURIST
NYPROMOTION ASPECT (OR DID NOT ATTACH IMPORTANCE THERETO),
AND OBVIOUSLY DID NOT WISH DISCUSS DETAILS.

4. ACCORDING MACKENZIE, PANAM HAS ALREADY SENT LETTER
TO USCAB STATING THAT IN VIEW OF PRESIDENT MARCOS'
ACTION, PANAM CONSIDERS IT DESIRABLE AWARD GUAM RIGHTS
TO PAL ON TERMS COMPARABLE TO THOSE ON WHICH PANAM
GRANTED ADDITIONAL MANILA FREQUENCIES. MACKENZIE WAS
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UNCLEAR AS TO POSSIBLE PANAM POSITION ON NORTHERN
PACIFIC ROUTE. MEANWHILE, PANAM CHAIRMAN SEAWELL HAS
SENT LETTER TO PRESIDENT MARCOS EXPRESSING
APPRECIATION FOR GOP GRANT OF ADDITIONAL FREQUENCIES
AND PROMISING THAT PANAM WOULD PROCEED WITH TOURIST
PROMOTION EFFORTS.

5. MACKENZIE DEEPLY DISAPPOINTED AT GOP SHIFT OF
POSITION WHICH HE ATTRIBUTES TO PRESSURES MOBILIZED
BY PAL AND ROMUALDEZ WHO APPARENTLY WISHES USE PANAM
RIGHTS AS BARGAINING LEVER WITH US CAB. MACKENZIE
BELIEVES QUIAZON LETTER WRITTEN IN GOOD FAITH AND
REPRESENTED GOP POSITION BEFORE COUNTERACTING PRESSURES
SURFACED. HE CONTINUES TO HOPE THAT MELCHOR AND
OTHERS CAN BE IMPRESSED WITH TOURIST PROMOTION BENEFITS
OF PROPOSED ARRANGEMENT SO THAT GOP WILL IMPLEMENT
ADDITIONAL FREQUENCIES.
BYROADE

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